

21 May 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
FROM :   
Office of the Assistant to the DCI  
SUBJECT : Background Information on Randolph-  
Macon College for your May 30 Appearance

Randolph-Macon is a small (785 students) coeducational liberal arts college. It was founded in 1830 by the Methodist Church and is the oldest Methodist College in America. It is no longer church-owned, but maintains strong ties to the church. It was originally located in Boydton, Virginia to serve both North Carolina and Virginia. After the War Between the States (Civil War is not in fashion apparently -- at least to judge by the catalog), it was moved to Ashland which is more easily accessible.

Nineteen academic majors are offered in four basic curricular areas: Arts and Letters; History, Religious Studies, and Philosophy; Social Science; and Mathematics and Natural Science. Scholastic excellence is emphasized, and each student is expected to participate in a month-long colloquy each January.

You had understandably thought you were going to Lynchburg, Virginia. You thought that because Lynchburg is the site of the Randolph-Macon College for Women which was once associated with the Randolph-Macon College at Ashland. Until 1971 the Ashland school was all male, and apparently the biggest event in the school's history since the War Between the States was the decision to admit women.

Please note that Hanover County is Patrick Henry country. He was born and reared in the county, and it is a matter of great local pride.

Also note, John Randolph and Nathaniel Macon were two statesmen from Virginia and North Carolina respectively.

SIGNED